UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/615,585	07/07/2003	Michiaki Otani	9333/352	8983

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BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
POST OFFICE BOX 10395
CHICAGO, IL 60610

EXAMINER
JACKSON, JAKIEDA R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2626	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

PTOL-90A (Rev. 04/07)

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED <u>22 June 2007</u> FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

1. ☒ The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to or on the same day as filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:

    a) ☐ The period for reply expires _____ months from the mailing date of the final rejection.

    b) ☒ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.

        Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

<u>NOTICE OF APPEAL</u>

2. ☐ The Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).

<u>AMENDMENTS</u>

3. ☐ The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will <u>not</u> be entered because

    (a) ☐ They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);

    (b) ☐ They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);

    (c) ☐ They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or

    (d) ☐ They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

        NOTE: _____. (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).

4. ☐ The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).

5. ☐ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.

6. ☐ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).

7. ☐ For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a) ☐ will not be entered, or b) ☐ will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

    The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

    Claim(s) allowed: _____.

    Claim(s) objected to: _____.

    Claim(s) rejected: _____.

    Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____.

<u>AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE</u>

8. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will <u>not</u> be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).

9. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will <u>not</u> be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome <u>all</u> rejections under appeal and/or appellant fails to provide a showing a good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).

10. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.

<u>REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER</u>

11. ☒ The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: <u>See Continuation Sheet.</u>

12. ☐ Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s). (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s). _____

13. ☐ Other: _____.

Continuation of 11. does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because:
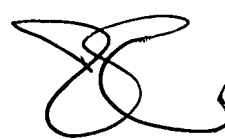Applicant argues that Regenar does not teach an automated system, rather, the passage cited only states that the Regenar translation system can also be implemented in other media, including "computer programs, "compact disks," etc. This suggestion would only change the form of the visual presentation in Regenear but still does not disclose the specific automatic processing as recited in Applicant's claims. However, Regenar teaches electronic translators, computerized processing etc. (column 2, lines 1-29 with column 38, lines 50-65), which all imply some sort of automated processing. Therefore, the arguments are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that the present invention translates the pronunciation of a character or string in the original text item not the words. Applicant's claim 1 recites an automated voice generator that takes a text item in a first language and generates a voice output in the pronunciation of a second language. More specifically, a character or string in the original item that is not included in the second language is automatically replaced by a "translating" means with a character or string in the second language that thas an equivalent or similar pronunciation to the pronunicaation of the character or string in the first language. The new text item, which includes the replacement character or string, is then output by pronuouncing the new text item according to the pronunication of the second language. As an example, the German character "B" is translated into the English character string "ss". Applying the translation rule in Applicant's invention, the German word "StraBe" is changed to "strasse" and pronounced in that form in English. Thus, Applicant's invention does not translate the original word into another language ("StraBe" would be translated as "street" in English), but rather translates character/string pronunciations so that the original text item can be pronounced using the second language. .

As currently claimed, Regenar teaches that which is claimed and that which is argued in numerous passages throughtout the art. Figure 2, element 40, column 22, lines 12-42 with column 27, lines 26-44, teaches the English/Spanish pronunication/translations of characters. Therefore, Applicant's arguments are not persuasive.

Regarding claim 16, Applicant argues that Regenar does not teach a map database or collection of place names or means for reading out place names. Regenar teaches a subsystem for obtaining information relative to navigating in rural and urban areas and further, the means for reading out has been interpreted as the translation, interpretation and/or understanding of the database (column 13, lines 52-67), which was previously pointed out. Therefore, Applicant's arguments are not persuasive.

Regarding claims 7-10 Applicant's argue that Regenar does not disclose the feature that when the original text item is abbreviated, the replacement of a character or string is done according to the full original text. The Examiner concedes that Regenar does not disclose this feature, but asserts that this feature is found in Conkie. However, the cited passage in Conkie (column 4, lines 31-57) describes a linguistic processor of a speech synthesizer that pronounces a non-abbreviated word in the same language as the abbreviation. In response to applicant's arguments against the references individually, one cannot show nonobviousness by attacking references individually where the rejections are based on combinations of references. See In re Keller, 642 F.2d 413, 208 USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981); In re Merck & Co., 800 F.2d 1091, 231 USPQ 375 (Fed. Cir. 1986). The combination of Regenar and Conkie is used to reject claims 7-10, in which Conkie was used to teach translating abbreviated text. Therefore, Applicant's arguments are not persuasive. ·

DAVID HUDSPETH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600

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